

CARLISLE TRAILS COMMITTEE

Memo

To: Luke Ascolillo, Chair, Community Preservation Committee
From: Alan Ankers, Chair, Carlisle Trails Committee
Re: Study of Community Preservation Needs and Resources
Date: August 12, 2015

Community Preservation Initiatives

Trails are people's immediate connection to nature and the rural character we all love about Carlisle. In addition to occasionally creating new trails, the Trails Committee installs boardwalks, bridges, kiosks, and signs on Carlisle trails to provide easier and safer access to public conservation land and to protect the land from damage due to erosion. These installations expand the opportunities for passive recreation activities such as walking, jogging, cross country skiing, wildlife observation, and horseback riding on those lands.

During the next five years, the expectation of the Trails Committee is for trail work, as noted above, to continue at a rate comparable to that of the last ten years. There are no particularly large projects currently on the horizon, though of course this can change at any time.

Past Funding Requests

The Trails Committee's annual expenditures for such projects are typically between \$2000 and \$3000. Previous CPA requests for funding were granted in 2005 and 2010, each for \$15,000 over a period of five years. An extension was granted in 2015 allowing an additional three years to use unspent funds remaining from the 2010 grant. The funding was designated to cover costs for materials, permitting, specialty tools, and rental equipment to build new boardwalks, bridges, kiosks, constructed by the Trails Committee on public lands (Town, State, and Federally owned property) in Carlisle.

Anticipated Funding Requests

The Trails Committee anticipates a similar request for funding, of \$10,000 to \$15,000, for a period of five years, most likely in either 2017 or 2018. Open Space and Recreation would be the applicable categories. CPA funds will not be utilized for maintenance; funds from a separate Trails Committee Trail Guide Book account are utilized for maintenance purposes.